



BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY
On display through Sept. 18
...9

VOLUME 55, NUMBER 1

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Chieftain

50 YEARS

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025



ICC Indian Delegates Josie Warren of Pontotoc, left, and Landry Kent of New Albany express their excitement about the fall enrollment increase.

ICC ranks among leaders in Mississippi in enrollment

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College ranks among the leaders in the state in enrollment, according to figures released this week by the Mississippi Community College Board.

ICC currently shows a 2 percent increase in headcount and a 3.5 percent increase for full-time enrollment from fall 2024 to fall 2025. Most importantly, figures show a 14 percent increase in enrollment since fall 2021, a four-year consecutive enrollment increase. ICC remains the fifth largest community college out of 15 with more than 5,300 credit students enrolled.

The continuing increase can be attributed to multiple factors according

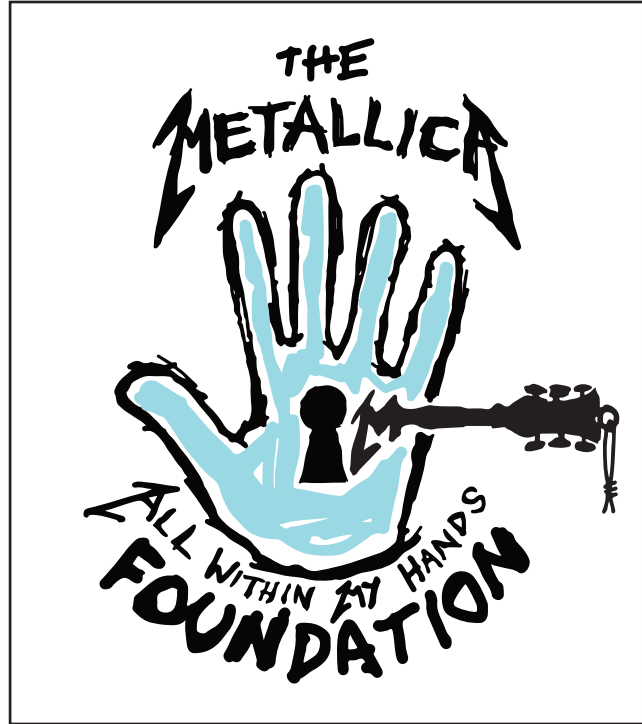
to ICC President Dr. Jay Allen. They include recent additional housing opportunities tailored to meet student needs, including the addition of 240-capacity Magnolia Hall, exclusively for student leaders, and reopening of both Sheffield and Monroe Halls last fall with spaces designed to accommodate the ICC student of today as well as an enhanced emphasis on activities. Even with the addition of multiple housing options, ICC's residence hall waiting list reaches into the hundreds.

"This very exciting news demonstrates a collaborative effort between all areas of the college to allow for continued enrollment growth," Allen said. "The increase in the number of stu-

dents that ICC is serving is significant because we have additional opportunities to provide a solid educational foundation and the best start for those in our five-county district and beyond."

"Statistics show that the more students are engaged, the more successful they will be in the classroom," according to ICC Vice President of Student Services Dr. Brad Boggs. "Having an attractive, comprehensive student activities program plays a major role and is a defining factor why students attend ICC, and subsequently, it is an opportunity to retain students once they enroll." The renewed emphasis on student activities includes opportunities for both traditional-age students as

well as adult learners at all three locations - Fulton, Tupelo and Belden based on listening to ICC's students and staff and providing programs/events that are of interest to all. "Student engagement is an opportunity for all who attend to make life-long friendships and connections as well as to participate in fun activities, especially with the reopening of the Student Activities Center last fall, which provides the BEST opportunities for all students. It is redesigned with covered outdoor space to enable student activities to be held 'rain or shine.'" - *See Enrollment Leaders, page six.*



ICC one of two in Mississippi selected Metallica Scholars Initiative workforce education program expands

Staff Reports

All Within My Hands, the non-profit, philanthropic, organization created by the members and management of Metallica, recently announced its Year 7 of its Metallica Scholars Initiative with its largest grant to date, totalling \$3 million. Itawamba Community College was among those whose grants were renewed for the third time. MSI now has a presence in 75 colleges across all 50 United States and the territory of Guam

and is expected to reach approximately 10,000 students. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is the state's other representative.

"It is a tremendous honor for Itawamba Community College to be selected as one of the continuing recipients of the prestigious All Within My Hands grant, which will significantly impact our career education programs and the lives of those who will receive scholarships to pursue a

pathway and their best start," said ICC President Dr. Jay Allen. "It is another indication of the success of the College, reinforcement of the mission that students and their success are our top priority. We express our heartfelt gratitude to AWMH for their continuing investment in the lives of students, many of them with limited resources, to provide better lives and better futures." - *See All Within My Hands, page ten.*

For the latest news updates
.....
See www.iccms.edu

3 Success Award

A photograph of a woman in a blue blazer and a man in a brown jacket holding a certificate. The certificate has the ICC logo and the text 'COARC'.

7 Creating a Masterpiece

A photograph of two women in light blue shirts and white pants working on a large map or project on a table.

12 Football in action

A photograph of football players in red and white uniforms in action on a field.

Inside

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A QR code.

VIEWPOINT
GRANT EDGER
Chieftain Staff

Is AI a burden
on the classroom?

Artificial intelligence chatbots such as ChatGPT and Perplexity have quickly proven to be an incredibly versatile and easily usable educational resource.

These chatbots offer quicker access to specific information than Google and cover a wider range of topics than any textbook while being readily accessible to anyone with a Wi-fi connection.

While these traits give AI the ability to be an incredibly valuable tool for students and teachers, it's the same traits that have made AI a burden on the classroom.

The core issue with AI is overreliance because while chatbots like ChatGPT can do a variety of tasks relating to a variety of subjects, they do not encourage students to learn what their class is teaching.

As an example, if a student were to ask ChatGPT to translate a paragraph for a Spanish assignment so they submit the translated text, they would not have to know any amount of Spanish to finish their work.

The same logic applies to asking the AI to write an essay or to solve a math equation or to generate an image for art class. Using AI to complete assignments does not require a proper understanding of the subject being taught, only the ability to ask something else to do it instead.

If AI were perfect, this would not be as big of an issue, but AI makes mistakes all the time, and it is typically obvious when an assignment was completed using it.

When asked to write a paper, Chat GPT will often pull information from sources that do not exist, and when asked to solve a math equation, the program will skip steps and will not always give the right answer.

ChatGPT is capable of being a supporting tool for students regardless of whether they have an incredible understanding of the material or not, but when used as a crutch to supplement proper understanding of a topic or subject, the AI's faults start to become the student's faults.

Some would argue that as AI improves, there would eventually be a point where it simply is not worth the time doing anything without AI because it would always be good enough, but I disagree with this idea because even if AI does substantially improve, humans will always be necessary for actually applying the work.

ChatGPT could potentially write a decent essay, but it could never interpret and apply the meaning behind an essay in the same way a human can, not can it apply a math equation to a real-world scenario or hold a conversation in Spanish.

The human ability to apply knowledge to the real world is something that cannot be replicated by any Chatbot, which is why a proper understanding of the material learned in school is important and is also why resources that discourage acquiring an understanding of said material are bad for the classroom.

There are examples of AI chatbots with purposefully limited capabilities made to function like a coach, journalisticlearning.org, which has an AI chatbot named "Murrow" that works as a helper for young news reporters that will assist with developing topics and analyze writing but will not do any writing of its own.

If AI is going to become a prominent force in the classroom, I believe this is the form in which it would function best since it offers a reliable and versatile tool for students and teachers while still encouraging students to learn the material.

OPINION
POLL
FROM
THE
PAST

“
What
was your
favorite
thing
about
Welcome
Week
at
ICC?
”

Leah Duncan
Chieftain Staff

“I really enjoyed the BSU Water Party and the Funkytown Throw-down! We got to ride the mechanical bull...meeting a lot of people and seeing everyone because I new a lot more people than I thought I did.” - Mackenzie Turner, Oxford, freshman

“BSU activities...I really liked the water activities, which is where I met my friend and a couple of her friends, and they have been helping me so far in college. It was really good to meet new people.” - Ann Amon, Fulton, freshman

“Meeting new people because I am not a very social person, and it's hard for me to just go up and talk to people so it has made it easier for me.” - Katelynn Montgomery, Golden, sophomore

“Just being able to enjoy all the activities and feeling the open arms from the community, and it was just our first day. Funkytown Throwdown was really fun and welcoming.” - Adrianna Ruth, Mooreville, freshman

“The BSU Water Party. It was really fun, and everybody was welcoming. They had a worship night and then family groups afterward, and it just feels good to be involved with a Christian surrounding group around you.” - Allie Stacy, Mooreville, freshman

“Everybody getting together, meeting new people and just getting to experience it.” - Langley Smith, Houston, freshman

“The BSU Water Party. It was really fun with the fire trucks spraying the water, and I know all of the fire people.” - Melany Brown, Fulton, freshman

“I met new people, made new friends and experienced new things.” - Triniti Crossen, Houston, freshman

“The welcome party on the President's lawn. It gave us a chance to get out.” - Macayla Bell, Pontotoc, freshman

“The water party. I met a lot of people from my high school I didn't know went to school here.” - Detra Anderson, Shannon, freshman

VIEWPOINT
CURTIS MONTS
Mental Health Counselor

When gaming
gets in the way

Video games are a favorite way for many students to relax, connect with friends and take a break from stress.

But when gaming stretches into hours a day, it can quietly get in the way of the very goals students come to Itawamba Community College to achieve - academic success, meaningful connection with peers and career preparation.

It's easy for a "quick game" to turn into a late-night marathon. Lost hours cut into study time, exercise or sleep. Over the years in my practice as a therapist, I've noticed that this can create unnecessary stress, the very thing the person was hoping to limit.

Late-night gaming overstimulates the brain, making it difficult to wind down. Poor sleep affects concentration, memory and mood - making exams and projects more challenging than they need to be.



Extended gaming sessions can lead to eye strain, poor posture and inactivity. Socially, gaming can sometimes replace in-person connections, leaving students feeling more isolated than supported.

Employers value communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills. Students who spend most of their free time gaming may miss out on building those skills through clubs, internships and real-world experiences.

Finding Balance

Video games don't have to disappear from student life. The key is balance:

*Use games as a reward after responsibilities are done.

*Power down before bed to protect sleep.

*Make time for in-person friendships and college involvement.

*Pay attention if gaming starts to feel more like escape than enjoyment.

College is about shaping your future and as counselors at ICC, we are available to hopefully help you create the life you're seeking. -

Itawamba Community College offers mental health counseling at all locations - Fulton, Tupelo and Belden - free to students and employees. For more information, email personalcounseling@iccms.edu.

Letters
TO THE EDITOR

The Chieftain will print letters to the editor or guest commentaries.

However, they must be signed and include a valid ICC email address and telephone number.

Anonymous submissions will not be printed.

The Chieftain reserves the right to print or reject letters or to edit them for clarity and space.

Chieftain 50

Staff Writers.....Caroline Dill, Leah Duncan, A'la Echols, Grant Edger, Jacqueline Guterrez Alonso, Jasper Hatchett, Aryana Magers, Billy Millender, Amedei Ratliff, Sharlee Shumpert

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Caroline Mason
Cayce Smith

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Cal Brown

The Chieftain is available online only and is posted three times each semester.

Views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271, or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.

Faculty SPOTLIGHT

ELIZABETH OWEN

Instructor, Art

FAMILY: Married to Tim Kinard, art instructor at Northeast Mississippi Community College, and they have two children, Hollis and Scout.

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, William Carey University; Master of Fine Arts degree, Georgia State University



WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY TEACH OR HAVE TAUGHT: A variety of art courses, including Art Appreciation, Design I, Ceramics, Art History (online), Drawing I, 3D Design, Art for Elementary Teachers

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: Taught for eight years, Tupelo Public School District

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING: “Not everyone learns the same. Strives to make lessons engaging for every student. Her favorite subject to teach is ceramics. ‘You have to be passionate about ceramics because it takes a lot of time and effort.’”

INSPIRATION FOR TEACHING: Passion to help others succeed. She finds her motivation in the success of her students, especially when they begin to build confidence in their work. On the other hand, teaching has its challenges. One of the toughest parts of teaching is when you watch students struggle and you want to help them find interest in the subject so they can succeed.

HER GOAL: “Help every student discover their passion and understand the value of art, whether they decide to pursue it professionally or not. She wants her students to remember her as someone who was always there for them. I want them to know that I care about them and want them to succeed.”

ADVICE TO STUDENTS: “Time management is key. Manage your time well and be mindful of others’ time. One of the biggest challenges for college students is poor planning, which she has seen significantly affect students’ success. Her advice reflects her motivation not just to teach art but also to prepare students for the world beyond the classroom. You can multitask. You can work while hanging out with friends. You can work while watching shows or listening to music. You have to be passionate about what you want.”

A FUN FACT TO KNOW ABOUT THE TEACHER/FACULTY MEMBER: She lives a life filled with interesting hobbies and a love for animals. She owns two Corgis, a cat and raises 15 chickens. She also purchases pieces of artwork from her students and hangs them up in her work office, showcasing her deep appreciation for their growth and talent.

A’LA ECHOLS

Chieftain Staff



Now-retired Respiratory Care Technology Clinical Coordinator Beth Bowers and Program Director Adam Denton celebrate the program’s Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award.

ICC’s Respiratory Care receives success award

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College’s Respiratory Care Technology program has been nationally recognized during a Commission Accreditation for Respiratory Care awards dinner in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. recently.

ICC is among a select group of programs and the only one in Mississippi that received the Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award, which is presented as part of the CoARC’s continued efforts to value the RRT credential as a standard of professional achievement. ICC’s program has the best pass rates in Mississippi.

Program director Adam Denton of Saltillo said that from a program effectiveness perspective, the CoARC views the RRT credential as a measure of a program’s success in inspiring its graduates to achieve their highest educa-

tional and professional aspirations.

“We are honored to be recognized with the CoARC Distinguished RRT Credentialing award,” Denton said. “his award validates the hard work of our respiratory therapy faculty and demonstrates the dedication of our graduates, who invest countless hours preparing for national board exams. This recognition reflects the commitment to excellence that ICC and the Health Science division consistently uphold. With this award, we are confident that ICC’s Respiratory Care program, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, will continue to produce the best respiratory therapy students in Mississippi.” Denton also credited former Respiratory Care clinical director Beth Bowers of Oxford, who retired last spring for the

award.

In selecting programs for the recognition, the CoARC Board used objective criteria based on key accreditation metrics documented in the 2024 Annual Report of Current Status. They included having three or more years of outcomes data; holding accreditation without a progress report at the end of the year; documenting RRT credentialing success of 90 percent or above and meeting or exceeding established CoARC thresholds for TMC high cut score and retention.

“The CoARC extends its sincere congratulations to you, your faculty, students and graduates for meeting these rigorous criteria,” said Dr. Sarah Varekojis, CoARC president. “Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence in respiratory care education.”

ICC sets Fall Preview Day Oct. 23 at Fulton Campus

Staff Reports

High school seniors have an opportunity to learn about Itawamba Community College during its Fall Preview Day, which is scheduled for October 23 from 2:30-5:30 p.m. at the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center at the Fulton Campus.

Fall Preview Day attendees will also have free admission for the ICC/Northeast football game at Eaton Field, beginning with a tailgate at 5 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

They can select from up to two information sessions about ICC’s schools of academics, career education and health science, and participants will hear directly from faculty within the areas. They can choose which schools to attend based on selected major through the registration link. Attendees will also receive information on involvement at ICC, financial



Alea Hudson welcomes participants to Fall Preview Day ‘24.

aid/scholarships, housing and residence life, Phi Theta Kappa and honors. There will also be a question-and-answer session. Student recruiters will lead the campus and residence hall tours during this event.

DR. PEPPER TUITION TOSS

Although attendance at the football game is optional, two Fall Preview Day attendees will have

the opportunity to participate in the Dr. Pepper Tuition Toss at halftime. The names of two contestants will be drawn at the free tailgate to have a chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by Dr. Pepper and the Itawamba Community College Foundation, Inc.

PREREGISTER SOON

Preregistration, which begins Sept. 24 at www.iccms.edu/Preview-Days is required, and spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrants are allowed to bring one parent or guardian to the event. Each senior student is required to fill out his/her own individual registration.

For more information, email Go2icc@iccms.edu.

ICC...#Betterthanevery

College CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FALL 2025

- Oct. 1** Last day to drop classes with a 'W' through excessive absences or withdrawal from classes for eLearning first eight-week classes
- Oct. 6** Spring 2026 class schedule available
- Oct. 9** Advising begins for spring 2026
- Oct. 10-17** Final exams for eLearning first eight-week classes
- Oct. 10** Progress reports due for traditional and eLearning full-term classes
- Oct. 13-14** Fall break for students and employees
- Oct. 20** Grades due at noon for eLearning first eight-week classes
First day of class for eLearning second eight-week classes
Student Evaluation of Instruction surveys available
- Oct. 21** Last day to add elearning second eight-week classes
- Nov. 3** Registration begins at 2 p.m. for currently-enrolled Honors College and 3 p.m. for Allied Health students
- Nov. 4** Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. for currently enrolled sophomores who have completed 24 or more hours

**For more information
and updates
on the fall schedule, go to
www.iccms.edu**



Learning about Southern Miss options

Kristie Fowler presents the University of Southern Mississippi Construction Management transfer opportunities to Itawamba Community College first-year students recently at the Fulton Campus. According to program director Scott Emison, Fowler has been invited to return to ICC for the Spring Career Fair, now scheduled for late February. ICC is partnering with USM for a 2+2 program to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in construction management. The program allows ICC's students to transfer to USM to complete degree work in two years. - Photo furnished.



Itawamba Community College's 2024-25 Fashion Tribe presents its spring show last April in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center auditorium. Below, more shots from the show and last year's executives.

Fashion Tribe offers unique experience

SHARLEE SHUMPERT Chieftain Staff

One of Itawamba Community College's greatest strengths is the range of extracurricular clubs and activities it offers to its students.

Fashion Tribe is one such organization.

NEW LEADERSHIP

Spearheaded by ICC alumnus Leah Pennington, who has recently joined the Community Relations staff as Creative Content Specialist, and led by a board of student executives, Fashion Tribe offers a unique experience to its participants. It gives them the chance to model, style and coordinate photo shoots as well as a fashion show. What is ICC's Fashion Tribe up to this year?

PLANS FOR THE YEAR

This is the club's fifth season since its resurrection, and it has already taken its first photo shoot, which focused on initial headshots. There are five to six photo shoots per school year, Penning-

ton said. For each one, the executives select a theme, and different models will be chosen each time. Photo shoots either are offsite or in studio 33 on the Fulton Campus.

FUNDRAISER

Later in the fall semester, a t-shirt fundraiser will be organized to help fund Fashion Tribe, Pennington said. The yearly fashion show is planned for April, and Pennington said that anyone who is willing to help can be a part of creating the event.

Pennington said that her role as head of Fashion Tribe "is like a full-circle moment. I was one of the first executives when we brought it back in 2021. We were the first group to do a fashion show (after the club's return). It's like giving back to what made me who I am."

EXECUTIVES

There are both sophomore and freshman executives in Fashion Tribe. This year's executives in-

clude Emma Carolyne Wright, sophomore, styling executive; Abbie Mcquary, sophomore, communications executive; Maggie Kimble, sophomore, styling executive; Zoe Valsamakias, backstage executive; Anna Kate Crenshaw, social media executive; Cella Kay Dye, freshman, backstage executive; Alana Corder, freshman, modeling executive; Ashley Saucedo, freshman, social media executive; Landry Kent, freshman, recruiting executive; Li Gundy, freshman, communications executive; and Oliva Snellings, freshman, modeling executive.

HOW TO JOIN

Those who want to join Fashion Tribe can connect with Pennington at lspennington@iccms.edu or CJ Adams (cjadams@iccms.edu), or by stopping by the Community Relations building on the Fulton Campus.



Have a great fall semester!

Meeting Room

CLUB NEWS & CALENDAR

PROFESSIONAL/SCHOLARLY

Alpha Delta Nu	alphadeltanu@iccms.edu
Educators Rising	educatorsrising@iccms.edu
Humanities Club	humanitiesclub@iccms.edu
ICC Art Club	artclub@iccms.edu
ICC Honors College	honors@iccms.edu
ICC Influencers	influencers@iccms.edu
Legal Studies	legalstudies@iccms.edu
Men of Excellence	menofexcellence@iccms.edu
MOSA	mosa@iccms.edu
PEAK Club	peak@iccms.edu
Phi Theta Kappa	ptk@iccms.edu
Sigma Kappa Delta	SKD@iccms.edu
Skills USA	skillsusa@iccms.edu
STEM Club	stemclub@iccms.edu
SOTA (Occupational Ther.)	sota@iccms.edu
The Business Council	council@iccms.edu
The Global Experience	travel@iccms.edu
Women of Excellence	womenofexcellence@iccms.edu

COLLEGE-BASED

Archery Club	archery@iccms.edu
Bass Club	bassclub@iccms.edu
Chieftain (Newspaper)	chieftain@iccms.edu
Disc Golf Club	discgolf@iccms.edu
Diversity Club	diversityclub@iccms.edu
Fashion Tribe	fashiontribe@iccms.edu
Indian Delegation	delegate@iccms.edu
Mirror (Yearbook)	mirror@iccms.edu
Orientation Leaders	orientation@iccms.edu
Student Activities Board	SAB@iccms.edu
Student Government Assn.	SGAFulton@iccms.edu SGATupelo@iccms.edu

FINE ARTS PERFORMING

All-American Band	band@iccms.edu
CenterStage	centerstage@iccms.edu
Choir and Chamber Singers	choir@iccms.edu
Color Guard	colorguard@iccms.edu
Concert Ensembles	band@iccms.edu
Film Club	filmclub@iccms.edu
Indianettes	indianettes@iccms.edu
Jazz Ensemble	jazz@iccms.edu
Pom Squad	pomsquad@iccms.edu
Steel Drum Band	band@iccms.edu
Theatre Productions	theatre@iccms.edu
Woodwind Ensembles	woodwinds@iccms.edu

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Baptist Student Union	bsu@iccms.edu
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	FCA@iccms.edu
Nurses Christian Fellowship	NCF@iccms.edu
Wesley Foundation	wesley@iccms.edu

**For more information
on ICC clubs
and organizations,**



All-American Heroes Night has become a tradition at ICC, as evidenced in these file photos. Both past and current members of the armed forces, first responders and health-care professionals are honored.

ICC to celebrate All-American Heroes Night

Staff Reports

Both past and current members of the armed forces, first responders and healthcare professionals will be special guests at Itawamba Community College's annual All-American Heroes Night, Sept. 18, at Lambert Stadium/Eaton Field at the Fulton Campus and honored during ICC's football game with

East Mississippi Community College, which begins at 7 p.m.

Special activities will include a salute during halftime honoring ICC's All-American Marching Band and a spectacular fireworks display.

Admission is free to all past and current armed forces members and healthcare professionals, first responders and their

families. Beginning at 5 p.m., there will be a free Touch-a-Truck at the entrance to Lambert Stadium.

For more information on the even, contact Brandy Davis White, Outreach Coordinator and Executive Assistant, at bd-white@iccms.edu or call (662) 862-8002.



ICC students earn degrees at end of summer '25 semester

Staff Reports

Several area residents were among those who earned Associate of Arts or Associate of Applied Science degrees or certificates at the conclusion of the 2025 summer semester at Itawamba Community College.

They include

Aberdeen - Peyton A. Vasser, A.A.; Jhayna R. Walker, A.A.; Haley Walls, A.A.; Tiara L. Ware, A.A.;

Amory - Jaylen O. Franks, certificate; Ashlyn N. Hadaway, A.A.; Shana M. McCullar, A.A.S.; William Millender, A.A.; Kayli R. Stanford, certificate; Jamia J. Whitfield, A.A.;

Baldwyn - Chelsea M. Duncan, A.A.S.;

Belden - Jordan N. Herring, certificate; Annslee R. Rhea, A.A.S.; Taylor N. Roberson, A.A.;

Booneville - Taylor B. Chapman, certificate; Katie E. May, A.A.S.;

Brandon - Stephanie B. Watts, A.A.S.;

Bruce - Claire N. Carter, A.A.S.;

Caledonia- Jada K. Glasgow, A.A.S.; Tykeasa J. Turner, A.A.;

Cleveland - Jordan T. Smith, A.A.;

Columbus - Jamya T. Brooks, A.A.; Makayla Cunningham, A.A.;

Kaisha M. Guy, certificate;

Corinth - Ashleyn T. Isbell, A.A.; Hadley P. Jackson, A.A.S.;

Eupora - Jameelah T. Marshall-Daniel, certificate;

Fulton - Janisha L. Adams, A.A.; Bradford C. Baggett, A.A.; Ramey Bridges, A.A.S.; Michael P. Goleblewski, A.A.; Orel A. Gray, A.A.; Leslie S. Guntharp, certificate; Jacob A. Reese, A.A.; Jasmyn Sheffield, A.A.S.; Christopher E. Underwood Jr., A.A.S.;

Guntown - Jessica M. Dancy, A.A.S.; Katelyn N. Haycraft, A.A.S.; Kadina L. Pollard, certificate; Kendal J. Stacks, A.A.;

Hamilton - Kaytlynn M. Merchant, A.A.; Emily B. Reed, A.A.; Lowery K. Taylor, certificate; William E. White, technical certificate;

Horn Lake - Quayla T. Ross, A.A.;

Houlka - Joshua A. Fernandez, A.A.; Megan P. Haire, A.A.S.; Karly B. Linley, A.A.S.; Manijah M. Martin, A.A.;

Houston - Diamond M. Hall, A.A.; Cassidy E. Lynn, A.A.; Allyson L. Smith, A.A.S.;

Lambert - Jermisha L. Harper, certificate;

Maben - Madison E. Gregg, A.A.S.;

Mantachie - Kelly R. Cleveland, A.A.;

Michigan City - Tyria Cheairs, A.A.;

Mooreville - Cristal G. Aguirre, certificate; Tobi M Capps, A.A.; Elissa H. Texada, A.A.;

Nettleton - Lakyn S. Donaldson, A.A.S.;

New Albany - Raena B. Lee, A.A.; Tor L. Washington, certificate; Cynthia L. Watson, certificate;

Okolona - Jerrian T. Beene, A.A.;

Olive Branch - Erin M. Harris, A.A.;

Oxford - Samantha C. Hendricks, certificate; Sarah P. Perkins, A.A.S.;

Picayune - Zoe A. Nastasi, A.A.S.;

Plantersville - Sarah G. Caygle, A.A.;

Pontotoc - Mallory M. Davis, A.A.; Eduardo Gaucin, A.A.; Brandasia G. Ivy, A.A.; Emily M. Lopez, A.A.S.; Heather Tedford, A.A.; Alexis D. White, A.A.;

Prairie - Destinee M. Bafford, A.A.S.; Jordan Gillespie, A.A.; Lisa R. McCoy, A.A.;

Ripley - Keegan G. Smith, A.A.S.;

Saltillo - Zakeius R. Buford,

Adrieanna N. Ford, A.A.; Rebecca L. Hughes, A.A.; Charles L. Russo, A.A.S.; Remar U. Talley, A.A.S., technical certificate;

Senatobia - Ayieona J. Connard, A.S.S., certificate;

Shannon - Sherry A. Bentley, certificate; Sherrika J. Conway, A.A.; Clifford D. Earnest, technical certificate; Jaylen Lee, A.A.;

Smithville - Teri C. Horn, A.A.; Allison A. Shamlin, A.A.;

Starkville - Precious S. Gordon, certificate;

Tupelo - Haylea C. Bates, A.A.; Henleigh M. Berry, A.A.; Adrianna M. Betancourth, A.A.; Milah J. Boone, certificate; Miriam A. Buchanan, certificate; Marshad Chandler, technical certificate, certificate; Whitley A. Davis, certificate; JaShyra D. Jones, certificate; Bryan Martinez, A.A.; Jaden M. Montgomery, A.A.; Michael Page, technical certificate; Jessica M. Partlow, A.A.S.; Amera Q. Price, certificate; Joseph C. Smith, A.A.; Briana M. Whitfield, A.A.; Isiah Windom, A.A.; and

Verona - Maurion Lowe, A.A.

**Want
To Know More?**

FULTON CAMPUS

Information on	Contact
Academic Honors.....	Admissions
Activities Calendar	V.P. of Student Services
Admissions/Records	Admissions
Advanced Placement	V.P. of Instructional Services
Athletics	Athletic Director
Band	Band Director
Books/Supplies	Bookstore
Career Planning	Adviser/Advising Center
Car Registration Decals	Campus Police
Change of Adviser/Major	Advising Center
Change in Curriculum	Adviser/Student Affairs
Counseling	Student Affairs
Counseling (Personal).....	V.P. of Student Services
Course Placement.....	V.P. of Instructional Services
Evaluation of Credits	Admissions
Examinations	Instructor
Faculty Office Hours	Instructor
Graduation Req.....	Admissions
Housing	Director of Housing
I.D. Cards	Library
Intramurals/Activities	Coor. of Student Activities
Library	Director of Libraries
Log-Ins/PINs	TIS Help Desk
Parking	Campus Police
Part-Time Jobs	Student Affairs
Placement Testing.....	Student Affairs
Publicity/Publications	Community Relations
Registration	Admissions
Schedule Changes	Adviser
Schedule Planning	Adviser
Scholarships	Financial Aid
Student Aid/Work Study	Financial Aid
Student Government	Coor. of Student Activities
Student Organizations.....	Sponsors
Summer School.....	Coor. of Student Activities
	V.P. of Instructional Services
Testing (Career).....	Career Center
Transcripts	Admissions
Tuition, Fees, Deferrals	Business office
Use of Campus Property	V.P. of Student Services
Veterans Affairs	Financial Aid

TUPELO CAMPUS

Admissions/Records	Student Affairs
Advanced Placement Credit ..	VP, Instructional Services
Books and Supplies	Bookstore
Career Planning.....	Adviser/Career Center
Car Registration/Decals	Campus Police
Counseling	Student Affairs
Evaluation of Credits.....	Admissions
I.D. Cards	Library
Job Placement.....	Career Center
Library	Library
Log-Ins/PINs	TIS Help Desk
Parking	Campus Police
Registration/Early-Reg	Student Affairs
Schedule Planning	Student Affairs
Scholarships	Financial Aid
Student Activities	Coor. of Student Activities
Student Aid.....	Financial Aid
Student Government	Coor. of Student Activities
Transcripts	Student Affairs
Tuition and Fees.....	Business office
Veterans Affairs	Financial Aid

BELDEN CENTER

Adult Ed./High School Equivalency	Audra Perry
Career Education.....	Dylan Baldwin
Continuing Education	Josh Gammill
WIOA.....	Brad Gates
Workforce.....	Barry Emison

**Contact information available
at www.iccms.edu
by clicking on the area of interest
or by searching
the college directory
at the same location.**



**Kyle Davis directs
the choir in this file
photo from 2024-
25.**

ICC Choir, Ensembles offer continued musical excellence

**CAROLINE DILL
Chieftain Staff**

Singing. A form of self-expression that dates back to the time humans first set foot on earth. It is a tradition that carries not only into our schools, but into our everyday lives. Itawamba Community College offers a wide range of clubs and organizations that cater to the interests of its students. However, at the heart of the college lies a rich tradition of musical Excellence, nurtured and showcased through the Choir, Chamber Choir and CenterStage.

Chor and Chamber Chor cover mostly academic music, according to director Kyle Davis. However, the Chamber Choir sings music on a “more advanced level,” including songs written in different languages. ICC’s CenterStage, however, could be considered the most unique of the three. It covers “genres of the radio,” Davis explained. “Name decades. Name different styles. We try to put a show together with those varied styles. We try to put a show together with those varied styles to make it more accessible to the average audience.”

CenterStage has a live band, a live cast and crew, and no one is standing still while the music is going. Dancing and acting are also part of the show.

These programs provide an opportunity for students from various majors and skill levels to participate, fostering a welcoming environment for anyone who en-

joys singing, Davis said. “Choir is for everybody. Most people can sing; there are just different levels of achievement.”

Choir, in general, is an experience that seems to have never left the memories or hearts of past alumni. Davis said that ICC students who are in the choir are surrounded by people who love music just as much as they. “Even if you never touch music again, the reason it is so impactful is because it makes you a better advocate because you understand. “After one semester of being a part of the programs, you walk away with a better understanding of how music works. Not only that, you learn so many things that center your mind and are not necessarily specific to music, but to humanity.”

Although the deadline to join choir this semester has already passed, joining in the spring could be possible, Davis said.

CHOIR

Members of the choir include Aiden Allred, Alivia Andrews, Kelsey Bridges, Cheridy Brown, Shaniya Brown, Maggie Brownlee, Danny Buchanan, Avan Castic, Selena Cereceres, Tasha Cherry, Autumn Cooper, Reason Colburn, Dollina Cruse, Kyla Dent, Trinity Derrick, Caroline Dill, Brady Edington, Shakayla Evans, Buddy Ferguson, Paris Fields, Hudson Frazier, Kaitlyn Gann, Julia Gray, Hayden Gregory, Abby Grissom, Joseph Hidalgo, Chloe Jackson, Peyton James, Bree Jobe, Landon

Johnson, Isaac Jones, J’Kyla Jones, Malayzia Kelly, JD Leach, Alonah Lipsey, Charlotte Mackey, Aja Metcalf, Lavonte Miller, Aiden Murphree, Colton Namey, Hunter Nickoles, Courtney Paige, Kailey Pannell, Joshua Perkins, Azharia Petty, Saniya Richardson, Anna Rollins, Clara Scales, My My Shannon, Gabriel Stanford, Audrey Stegall, Lauren Stewart, Nicholas Taylor, Jason Texada Yasmin Townsend, Lana Tubbs, Mariah Williams, Siporah Williams, Caleb Wood, Ethan Bailey, Olivia Bennett, Dylan Boudreaux, Sarah Brown, Grant Cook, Claire Davis, Khali Dilworth, Annabell Egger, Daiysa Gordon, Brady Hogan, Connor Joseph, Sierra Lochala, Devin McCollum, Crissen McCoy, Sara Beth Savell, Laiken Schumaker, Sharlee Shumpert, Khaleb Taliaferro, Ethan Vance and Lexi Young.

CENTERSTAGE

The CenterStage cast includes Reece Bell, McAllister Braden, Kelsey Bridges, Sarah Brown, Hayden Caples, Avan Castic, Reason Colburn, Dollina Cruse, Paula Elaine Garcia, Hayden Gregory, Abby Grissom, Peyton James, Briyana Jobe, Isaac Jones, Crissen McCoy, Colton Namie, Anna Rollins, Yasmin Townsend, Ethan Vance, Jeremiah Williams, Wilson Williams, Charlton Witherspoon, Ethan Bailey, Grant Cook, Claire Davis, Connor Joseph, Sierra Lochala, Tymera Parks and Sara Savell.

Enrollment Leader From page one

In addition, Itawamba Community College has transitioned to a Schools of approach to group like majors into a cohort to enable students to connect better with their selected field of study as well as with those in the same area, such as academic transfer and career education.

In comparison to all other higher education options in the state, both public and private, ICC has the second lowest cost of tuition and cost of tuition and fees combined and the lowest in north Mississippi. While the updated enrollment figures include online, academic and career education classes, they do not include workforce totals which are not measured on a semester basis, Allen said.

“Because of the dedication of ICC’s faculty and staff, our Board of Trustees and external funding support, we continue to provide an affordable and quality option, which has been documented in the naming of ICC among the top 150 in the nation by the Aspen Institute repeatedly and the continuation of a significant grant for the third year as part of the Metallica Scholars Initiative to provide scholarships to underserved students, and we’re one of only 78 colleges in the nation to be recipients,” Allen said. “In addition, the work of our recruiters, enrollment services and community relations team and our entire institution has contributed to this increase in enrollment, a true collaborative ef-

fort by all members of the ICC family.”

Allen also noted that data from the Institutions of Higher Learning shows that ICC produces graduates who when they attend any of the state’s eight universities, they generate the second highest number of bachelor’s degrees by transfer students. They also graduate with a higher GPA than the student who started at the university.

“We are always excited to hear that more students have chosen to become members of our ICC family, and an enrollment increase is always tremendous news,” said Michael Holloway, director of Recruitment and Orientation. “Students tell me every day that ICC is something spe-

cial and a place they quickly call home once they start here. I truly believe that ICC provides the best instruction in academic transfer, career education and health sciences programs, including those that are online. The many resources and opportunities available to students at the Fulton, Tupelo and Belden locations enhance the overall student experience and help ICC students achieve success. From the first time a student arrives at any of our locations or begin one of our fully online programs to the day they complete their degree or certification, we provide wraparound services throughout the entire process. It’s an exciting time to be at ICC, where we ensure that the BEST start here.”

**Shop the ICC Bookstore TODAY!
Fulton, Tupelo, Online**



Members of ICC's faculty and staff add their touches to artwork during Convocation 2025 at the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center to begin the fall semester.

ICC President challenges faculty/staff to 'create a masterpiece' this year

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College president Dr. Jay Allen challenged faculty and staff to 'create a masterpiece' during his remarks at the fall 2025 convocation at the Fulton Campus.

"Each year when we gather for convocation, I'm reminded that our work here is more than a list of tasks, programs and budgets - it's a living evolving canvas. And this year, our theme reminds us of 'The Power of One: The Big Picture Begins with You!' Think of ICC as a great mural in progress. Across its expanse are the colors, textures, patterns and decades of service - brushstrokes laid down by those who came before us, strokes that define our heritage and our foundation."

Those who attended had an opportunity to paint a section of an art piece in the lobby. Allen said that masterpieces don't happen all at once. "They are built one stroke at a time. One deliberate motion of the brush, and each of you holds a brush in your hand."

Allen noted that there are those who add bold colors, bring delicate details, work in the foreground while others lay the background tones that quietly hold the work together.

"And if we're honest, those strokes aren't glamorous. They don't come with applause or public thanks. They may mean going the extra mile, filling in where a gap appears or doing the quiet, unseen work that keeps our college strong. True artistry is found in the willingness to paint the corners that no one will ever notice, simply because the picture will not be complete without them."

"That's the kind of care that makes ICC not just good, but the best it can

be - for our students, for each other and for the communities that we serve. Our students arrive with blank spaces on their canvases - some with faint outlines already sketched, others still waiting to discover what image their life will hold. You are the ones who help them find their palette, steady their hand and see the possibilities in the empty space. My challenge to you is to pick up your brush. Make your mark. Go the extra mile. Serve without seeking gratitude. And trust that together, we are painting something beautiful, something lasting, something worthy of our place in the history of ICC, something that could outlive us all."

Among the introductions and recognitions was the presentation of new faculty and staff members and those who are serving in new roles.

New faculty and staff include

Amory - Fallon Coggins, recruiter;

Booneville - Latisha Stewart, Campus Police officer;

Corinth - Andrea Hardin, Bloom coordinator;

Fulton - Cade Evans, assistant baseball coach; Thomas Holland, TIS technician; Sarah Johnson, Bookstore clerk/barista; Andrew Kellum, chemistry instructor; Slater Lott, head baseball coach; Chance Lovett, assistant football coach/offensive coordinator; Braeden Martin, Library technologist; Kaila Reich, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Bailey Wilhite, custodian;

Golden - Johnathan Robinson, groundskeeper; Jacob Scott, assistant men's basketball coach;

Guntown - Alexandria Hall, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Donald McBrayer, groundskeeper; Madison Thompson, Recruitment of-

fice specialist;

Mooreville - John Fausz, Campus Security - Magnolia Hall; Jennifer Terry, Associate Degree Nursing instructor;

Myrtle - Victoria Gray, Respiratory Care Technology clinical coordinator;

New Albany - Beth Boyd, Bloom instructor;

Pontotoc - Jamaila Cummings, Admissions assistant; Missy Griffith, sociology instructor; Stroud Mills, recruiter; JaMorris Morgan, residence hall director; Amanda Robinson, Associate Degree Nursing instructor;

Randolph - Leah Pennington, Creative Content specialist;

Saltillo - Shelbi Johnson, eLearning proctor - Tupelo Campus; Gary Parsons, Workforce Development Outreach coordinator; Jacob Campeau, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Susan Zewicke, Admissions specialist;

Starkville - Raphael Leonard, assistant football coach/wide receivers;

Tremont - Rhonda Crouch, bookkeeper; Stephanie Hill, custodian;

Tupelo - Kendall Brooks, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Celeste Clayton, Housing office assistant; Avery McNeece, Library technologist;

Vina, Ala. - Christopher Kemp, Campus Police officer; and

Winfield, Ala. - Tyler Lann, assistant maintenance technician.

Returning staff members who are in new roles at ICC include

Aberdeen - Serenity Pierce, social science instructor;

Amory - Lauren Inmon, director of Purchasing;

Belden - Jay Harrelson, Industrial Maintenance instructor;

Baldwyn - Heather Hancock, Associate Degree Nursing director;

Blue Springs - Ashley Wells, WIOA bookkeeper/career coach;

Brookhaven - Darrian Wilson, head men's basketball coach;

Fulton - C.J. Adams, director of Marketing; Rick Collier, HPR instructor; Shannon Gillentine, director of Business Services; Stacey Hughes, lead online psychology/educational psychology instructor; Chasity Standifer, Advising Center assistant; Ryan Todd, Fine Arts Division chair; Olga Weatherford, administrative assistant to the Dean of Academic Instruction; Brittnie Wildmon, Human Resources office assistant;

Guntown - Arecia Prude, administrative assistant - Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing;

Houlka - Liz Edwards, Business Administration instructor;

Houston - Karen Watson, WIOA office assistant;

Mantachie - Ashton Davis, Instructional Support technician; Ethan Davis, Systems administrator;

Nettleton - George Farris, Instructional Support technician;

Red Bay, Ala. - Caleb Ramey, Computer Science instructor;

Ripley - Jonathan Thrasher, Computer Networking and Cybersecurity instructor;

Shannon - Deon Triplett, psychology instructor;

Tremont - Carrie Whitehead, Natural Science instructor;

Tupelo - Cynthia Adams, Supportive and Disability Services coordinator; Riley Morgan, eLearning adviser and Student Experience coordinator; and Mya Terrell, WIOA career coach - Tupelo.

Are you checking your ICC email?

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

September 17

*Lunch with Student Activities
Belden Center - Free*

September 18

*Lunch with Student Activities
Belden Center - Free*

*All-American Heroes Night
honoring Military, First Responders and
Healthcare Professionals
ICC vs. East Mississippi*

September 22

*Intramural Kickball
4 p.m. - Carrie Ball-Williamson
Recreational Center*

September 30

*Legal Studies Meeting
12:05 p.m. - eLearning Building*

October 1

*The Voice of ICC
6:30 p.m. - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center*

October 6

*Lunch at Belden
11 a.m.
Homecoming Dance - 8:30 p.m.*

October 7

*Donuts - 7:30 a.m.
Lunch at Belden - 11 a.m.
Laser Tag - 7 p.m.*

October 8

*Homecoming Pep Rally
6:30 p.m.*

October 9

*Homecoming
ICC vs. Coahoma*

October 23

ICC vs. Northeast

Full schedule of activity options

Aryana Magers
Chieftain Staff

Itawamba Community College has many plans in store for its students this fall semester.

Fall intramurals are underway, and with so many options, there is surely something to suit almost everyone. The remaining schedule includes Sept. 22 at 4 p.m., kickball; Nov. 4 at 4:30 p.m., volleyball and Oct. 21 at 5 p.m., dodgeball.

For those hoping for a little attention in the spotlight, Homecoming King and Queen campaigning is Sept. 15-17, and Homecoming maids, Sept. 22-24. Homecoming week is full of exciting activities such as the Homecoming Dance, Oct. 6, at 8:30 p.m. in the Band Hall at the Fulton Campus, lazer tag Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. in the intramural gym, pep rally Oct. 8 and the football game, Oct. 9, where all students are encouraged to come out and support the Indians.

Sept. 17 is Open Mic Night on the Student Activities yard, and Student Activities Coordinator Ana Brooke Stephens encourages all to come out to show off their talent or cheer on their fellow classmates. The Voice of ICC will be Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center.

Oct. 20-23 is Beat Northeast week! Both colleges have their blood drive battle where all students are encouraged to donate blood and support the team at the football game on Thursday night. Oct. 27-30 is Halloween week with crafts throughout the week, and the Monster Mash dance is at 8 p.m., Oct. 28.

Nov. 12 is the Fall Festival near the Crane Pavilion. It's 2-5 p.m., and there will be vendors, games and activities. Thanksgiving break is Nov. 24-28, and not long after is exam cram week, Dec. 1-4. And to kick off the holiday spirit, there will be a Christmas tree lighting, Dec. 2.

All students are encouraged to participate in any and all activities to give a fun and enjoyable college experience, Stephens said. Those with questions can reach out to studentactivities@iccms.edu.

MOVING IN...FALL 25



Itawamba Community College rolled out the red carpet on Move In Day for students. Clubs and organizations, local churches and ICC administrators assisted.



FYI

MAKE A NOTE OF IT

JUST A REMINDER...

Review lockdown procedures

ICC's faculty, staff and students are urged to review campus lockdown procedures.

"The procedures are meant to be very simple because at the point of a lockdown, the major concern is the safety of all of the individuals in the campus community," said Dr. Brad Boggs, vice president of student services.

Notifications will be communicated via ICC ALERT, email and the Emergency Information Web page.

Upon notification of campus lockdown, everyone must react immediately.

The procedures include

- 1) Lock all doors and windows.
- 2) Close all blinds.
- 3) Turn off lights.
- 4) Use room furnishings to barricade doors and as protection.
- 5) Everyone should sit on the floor, away from doors and windows.
- 6) Make no noise.
- 7) Remain in lockdown until it is cleared with a notice via ICC ALERT or the police/administrator gives te ALL CLEAR code.

In addition, these are procedures in the event of severe weather conditions or evacuation.

Individuals should check ICC's website, www.iccms.edu, for information. It's located under Campus Safety on the home page.



ICC art instructors Elizabeth Owen, left, and Dr. Dana Arnold, right, discuss pieces that are part of "Between Earth and Sky, a collection of works by two participating artists, in the gallery of the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center. It will be on display until Sept. 18.

'Between Earth and Sky' on display until Sept. 18

Staff Reports

Now through Sept. 18, Itawamba Community College is hosting "Between Earth and Sky," a collection of works by two participating artists in the gallery of the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center at the Fulton Campus.

A collection of ceramic pieces by Melanie Eubanks of Jones College is complemented by the large acrylic paintings of clouds by Hattiesburg artist Martina Sciolino. All of the works are for sale.

Eubanks is a ceramic artist who works primarily in stoneware and porcelain. The surface of her work is often decorated with brushwork, sgraffito or Mishima or a combination of all of these. With these techniques, she can make images that usually reference the organic shapes of nature and are echoed by the marks made by wood firing. Most of her work is functional and fired in a wood burning kiln, which creates ir-

regular surfaces due to wood ash adhering the side the objects facing the flame, which interests her most. She fires her work at various kilns in Louisiana, Alabama, Florida and at her home in Hattiesburg, where she shares a studio with her husband. Eubanks has taught art at Jones College since 1994. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi with degrees in painting, drawing and art education.

Sciolino describes her collection of cloud paintings as her "Sky Mind Series," of which she says, "We look to the heavens for inspiration, for release, for expansion, for freedom. The sky is also, in its way, a great mystery because its many majestic, mountainous form are really only vapors in the process of diffusing and aligning in arbitrary ways. The sky is a great improvisation, and these paintings are small improvisations that honor its nature. Clouds teach the truth about all form because they are

ephemeral. Whatever shape they take lasts only a short time before the wind creates another. Buddhist teachings encourage practitioners to view their thoughts and feelings as clouds in the sky: there is no sense in maintaining attachments o impermanent forms or in telling stories about accidental shapes that are always in the process of changing. Instead, one can 'rest in a mind like vast sky.' The title of this series, 'Sky Mind,' comes from those teachings."

"Between Earth and Sky" will be on display until Sept. 18, when the artists plan to give a presentation about the process and ideas at 1 p.m. in the Lecture Demonstration Room.

W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center gallery hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, unless the college is closed. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Shawn Whittington at eswhittington@iccms.edu or (662) 862-8301.



Although the Spirit Walk isn't part of Homecoming, the week will be full of ICC spirit!

Homecoming Week offers something for everyone

JACQUELINE GUTERREZ ALONSO
Chieftain Staff

The transition from summer to fall brings the start of a new school year, the return of the beloved pumpkin spice latte and an anticipated new football season. Many ICC students say they look forward to football season because it not only gives them something to do on Thursday nights, but it also signifies the approach of the most spirit-filled week of the year, Homecoming.

Homecoming week usually has a packed itinerary, and this year is no exception. The Homecoming dance will kickstart the week, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the Band Hall, and activities will continue with laser tag at the Fitness Center in the Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center at 7 p.m., Oct. 7, and a pep rally at the Crane Pavilion at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 8. The week will end with the long-awaited Homecoming game, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m.

Campaigning for king and queen will be Sept. 15-17. Students from each location will be allowed to vote for their candidates Oct. 17 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on their myTribe accounts. Voting will continue for two sophomore and two freshman maids Sept. 24 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Sept. 25.

Coleman receives DSU scholarship

Staff Reports

Jasmier Coleman of Pontotoc, a 2025 ICC graduate has received the Bower-Delta State University Transfer Nursing Scholarship of \$4,000 from the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation.

Students studying to become nurses in Mississippi and planning to transfer to Delta State University are eligible to receive the scholarship.

This initiative focuses on strengthening Mississippi's healthcare workforce to ensure healthier communities for generations to come.

"The Phi Theta Kappa Foundation is a dynamic partner in our efforts to improve the health of Mississippians," said Rebecca Cockrell, program director at the Bower Foundation. "Their strategic initiatives help identify



students who demonstrate characteristics necessary to succeed in Delta State University's nursing program. This collaboration maximizes the Bower Foundation's funding to impact the education and employment of nurses in Mississippi."

Coleman is among three stu-

dents who have been named Bower Scholars. Each will receive a \$4,000 scholarship, renewable for up to five semesters.

At ICC, Coleman was an Indian Delegate, Orientation Leader, vice president of both the Student Government Association and Women of Excellence and member of the Fashion Tribe, Phi Theta Kappa and Honors College.

Her honors included Homecoming Freshman Maid (2023) and Homecoming Queen (2024).

Coleman is a graduate of Pontotoc High School.

Her other activities include volunteer at churches and nursing homes, tutoring and Trading Post.

She is the daughter of Pon-desha Moore.

Getting Involved



Itawamba Community College students at the Tupelo Campus explore activities during a special event at the beginning of the fall semester.



Itawamba Community College is an open admission, comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution primarily serving Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties, while also being responsive to the instructional and economic development needs of the region.

Itawamba Community College fulfills its mission through 1) College-parallel, technical and career programs to prepare students to transfer or enter the workforce; 2) Continuing education and workforce pathways for individuals striving for professional growth or personal enrichment; 3) Strategic partnerships to provide student opportunities, meet business and industry needs and promote economic development; 4) Adult education programs committed to increasing the literacy level of the adult population, providing self-improvement opportunities, workforce readiness and/or high school equivalency; 5) Resources, including financial, physical and technological to advance educational purpose as well as traditional and online instructional services, student support services and business management; 6) Recruitment and employment of qualified personnel as well as provide ongoing opportunities for leadership growth and success in educational, career and personal goals.

Candidates for admission to academic and career education programs may be admitted by diploma - students are required to present an official transcript from a high school accredited by the appropriate state or regional accreditation association; by completing the appropriate number of Carnegie units; by successfully completing an acceptable high school equivalency test - students are required to have an official copy of the high school equivalency transcript mailed to the Director of Admissions; by advanced standing (college transfer students). Students graduating without a regular diploma (Occupational Diploma or Special Education Diploma) must successfully complete an acceptable high school equivalency test or qualify under a Mississippi Ability to Benefit State Process in order to be eligible for admission to Itawamba Community College. Some career education programs may have selective criteria for admission.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271 or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.

In compliance with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Itawamba Community College makes available its curricular and extracurricular programs and its facilities to every qualified person regardless of race, sex, color, creed, national origin or disability.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Community Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.670.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

www.iccms.edu
662.862.8000

Constitution Day

Sept. 17

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's School of Humanities will host a Voter Registration Drive, Sept. 17, from 11:50 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. at two locations.

They include the David C. Cole Student Services Building at the Fulton Campus and the Academic and Student Center at the Tupelo Campus.

According to Masha Laney, history instructor, "This is an important event for our student body. Many of our students have not registered to vote for various reasons. We try to make the process as easy as possible. Itawamba County and the Lee County Circuit Court Clerks will be on hand to answer questions."

Even if students have registered to vote, they can still stop by either location and celebrate Constitution Day with the School of Humanities.

Sign up today ICC schedules Preparing for the ACT

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's Continuing Education Department will offer Preparing for the ACT, September 20 (English/Reading) and Sept. 27 (Math/Science) from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Belden Center (3200 Adams Farm Road).

ICC's ACT prep instructors use three intensive classroom review methods in English, reading, science reasoning and math that focus on strategies for improving test-day performance and scores.

Those methods include a review of all concepts

tested, tips for overcoming test anxiety and guides for "studying smart."

Those who are enrolled have the opportunity to pre-test early and post-test later in the class using full-length ACT practice tests to measure performance and practice for the testing dates. Students must bring their books to all sessions.

The cost is \$50 per session.

Preregistration is required.

For more information and to register, email continuingeducation@iccms.edu or call (662) 407-1500.

Metallica From page one

"I could not be any prouder of our Metallica Scholars," said Robert Trujillo, Metallica band member. "We know that our country needs millions of skilled tradespeople, and it warms my heart to know that our Foundation's efforts are making a positive impact and putting hard-working people on the path to career in the trades. Whether it's a school visit or a meet and greet before a show, there is no better feeling than meeting out Metallica Scholars in person and hearing their stories of grit and determination firsthand, along with their pride and commitment. It is truly inspiring. To think we started with a few schools and a couple hundred students, and we're now in 75 schools nationwide, about to reach 10,000 students. It's just incredible."

Launched in 2019 by All Within My Hands in partnership with the American Association of Community Colleges, MSI began with 10 colleges focused primarily on Manufacturing programs. The workforce initiative has since expanded to offer opportunities in diverse fields for students interested in gaining the skills and training necessary to establish meaningful careers that provide family-sus-

taining wages.

To evaluate the program's efficacy, the University of Southern California Sol Price School of Public Policy independently researched and quantified MSI's impact on the skilled trades and the return on investment earlier this year. The research into all Year 6 community colleges, covering more than 350 fields of study at these institutions, measuring the cost of completion and anticipated salaries post-graduation. The key observation is that the ROI - the ratio of a program's cost to anticipated median wage across all MSI-supported programs is a very high and cost-effective 8.3X. This means that on average, MSI graduates can expect to earn 8.3X the upfront cost of their program during their first year in the workforce.

"2025 is a watershed moment for the Metallica Scholars initiative," said Peter Delgrosso, Executive Director, All Within My Hands. "With the addition of 16 new schools this fall and USC's independent research articulating the strength of our results, we are eager to tackle the quantifiable shortage of skilled labor our nation faces. If we extrapolate these ROI numbers over a career, it demonstrates how ef-

fective and profitable learning a trade can be for the individual, and how society as a whole also benefits from community college graduates. This insight will profoundly affect MSI going forward, impacting how people view careers in the trades, encouraging more corporate and individual sponsorship and driving its advancement across the country. We're thrilled to incorporate these findings into this year's planning and expansion." Year 7 also marks the renewal of AWMH's partnership with the Lowe's Foundation, which has provided \$1 million in support as part of its five-year, \$60 million commitment to prepare 5,000 people for skilled trades careers.

It takes a village to achieve these results, including the continued support from many longtime corporate partners of AWMH, notably workwear manufacturers Carhartt, Wolverine and CNH, a global leader in agricultural and construction equipment. The aforementioned, along with the extended family of Metallica Family of Fans have staunchly supported AWMH from day one and worked tirelessly to advance its mission.

#thebeststartthere

ICC students receive

Foundation scholarships for 2025-26

Staff Reports

Several area students are the recipients of Foundation scholarships at Itawamba Community College for 2025-26.

They include

Aberdeen - Jk'miracle Davis, Tommy and Natalie Kline Endowed Scholarship; Sierra Lochala, Wilson L. and Wanda Heering Memorial Endowed Scholarship, IMPACT Scholarship, The Rev. Dr. Roy H. and Doris Finney Ryan Endowed Scholarship; Nickolous Westmoreland, Thomas Griffith Memorial Annual Scholarship;

Amory - Jolie Bishop, Gilmore Foundation Healthcare Endowed Scholarship; Kyah Dilworth, W.B. (Bruce) and Peggy Davis Endowed Scholarship; Christopher Farrar, John and Beth Cleveland Endowed Education Scholarship; Abigail Harlow, IMPACT Scholarship; Peairr Pack, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Ella Phillips, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Allyson Watkins, Carolyn Franks Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Paytn West, Dorothy D. and George H. Ruff Foundation Automotive Technology Endowed Scholarship;

Baldwyn - Savannah Collier, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Bryston Howell, Stephens Forestry Endowed Scholarship; Andrea Yielding, Kermit and Mary Anna McFerrin Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Belden - Misty Cole, Jon D. Shelton and Jason Lee Shelton Annual Scholarship; Madison Sullivan, John and Beth Cleveland Endowed Scholarship;

Bruce - Sarah Collins, STEM Scholarship; Noah Morgan, ICC Gala Scholarship, IMPACT Scholarship;

Caledonia - Kaitlyn Harris, Ouida Kennedy McDaniel Academic Endowed Scholarship;

Calhoun City - Malayzia Kelly, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Carrollton - Caden Long, Adam N. Wages Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Cedarbluff - Makayla Quinn, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Coldwater - Andrew Mayo, MG Simmons Ability to Succeed Annual Scholarship, Suzanne Summerford Endowed Scholarship;

Columbus - Jacey Haynes, Dorothy W. Gibbs Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Brylee Smith, Wayne A. Whipple Endowed Scholarship; Serenity Taylor, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Kyler Whitworth, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Corinth - Victoria Fields, AT&T Scholarship;

Courtland - Anna Gant, Mounce Family Excellence in Healthcare Endowed Scholarship;

Crowder - Anna Hillhouse, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Dennis - Dalton Brandon, Rev. Doyce and Anita Gunter Wesley Foundation Annual Scholarship, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Ecru - Preston Dixon, Alvin Ashmore Memorial Endowed Pharmacy Scholarship; Karmen Otts, Ernest and Jamie Joyner Adult Learner Annual Scholarship;

Falkner - Aidan Quinn, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

French Camp - Kelsey Bridges, Stanley D. Moses Endowed Scholarship; Benjamin Wright, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Fulton - Nathaniel Beaty, Susan E. Loden Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Kaylee Benson, Guyton-Dzikielewski Education Endowed Scholarship; Courtney Black, Stanley D. Moses Endowed Scholarship; Melany Brown, Nick Sabine Endowed Scholarship; Breely Carsten, David

and Betty Cole Endowed Scholarship; Lillianna Chumney, IMPACT Scholarship; Avery Collum, Dana Grissom Cockrell Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Colby Craig, Phillips Contracting Annual Scholarship; Kaitlyn Gann, Maranda Darlene Ray Little Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Tiffany Johnson, Ernest and Jamie Joyner Adult Learner Annual Scholarship; Evan Johnson, Mitch Wheeler Memorial Annual Scholarship; Abbie Leathers, Pat Miles Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Hunter Marks, Stanley D. Moses Endowed Scholarship; Joshua Perkins, Carl Comer Annual Scholarship; Graham Ramirez, Billy Spigner Annual Scholarship; Hannah Robinson, Edgar Irwin Moore and Ruth Moore Endowed Forestry Scholarship; Lauren South, Kelly Wade Prestage Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Benton Stanley, Mike and Marcia Eaton Endowed Scholarship; Kaylee Taylor, Dr. Billy T. and Barbara Collum Endowed Nursing Scholarship; Brooklyn Winters, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Golden - Kara George, Dexter Digby Annual Scholarship; Tierney Johnson, Fulton Lions Club Endowed Scholarship; Shakira Kelton, IMPACT Scholarship; Abby Wilson, W.E. Boggs Endowed Scholarship;

Greenwood Springs - Alexis Jolly, Honorable Sharion Aycock Endowed Scholarship; Tristin Price, W.O. Benjamin Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Guntown - Douglas Holland, Stephens Forestry Endowed Scholarship;

Haleyville, Ala. - Ali Watts, IMPACT Scholarship;

Hamilton - Paris Fields, Quail Unlimited Annual Scholarship; Ella Kate Knotts, H.M. Richards Endowed Scholarship, ICC Tuition Toss Annual Scholarship; Shelby Sullivan, IMPACT Scholarship; Allison West, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Hickory Flat - Madison Ash, Troy York Crubaugh Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Houlka - Mary Fauver, Pearl Markham Burch Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Mallori Russell, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Houston - Kentreyvis Buford, K.C. Cooper Endowed Scholarship; George Galliven, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Sophia Gates, Herrick Foundation Endowed Scholarship; Rhett Goode, Billy and Edna Fisher Todd Annual Scholarship; Morgan Heair, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Kimberly Peach, Emily Hall Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Iuka - Timothy Richardson, IMPACT Scholarship;

Mantachie - McAllister Braden, AT&T Endowed Scholarship; Nathaniel Comer, Dr. Marshall E. Hollis Endowed Pharmacy Scholarship; Abby Grissom, Johnny and Bessie Lynn Crane Endowed Scholarship; Ben Mitchell, Winford Junior Rogers Endowed Scholarship; Wes Reinhard, A.J. Pitts Endowed Scholarship; Lincoln Summers, John and Beth Cleveland Endowed Engineering Scholarship; Jana Thompson, Charlie and Terry McCarthy Memorial Endowed Scholarship, Margaret Gurley Loden Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Brody Thompson, STEM Scholarship; Ava Trulove, Winford Junior Rogers Endowed Scholarship; Emma Williams, A.J. Pitts Annual Memorial Scholarship; Brooke Wood, Eli Kent Memorial Annual Scholarship, ICC Employee Association Annual Scholarship;

Marietta - Anna Bradley, Robert Loden Endowed Scholarship; Caleb Jones, Jo and Travis Staub Endowed

Scholarship, Upchurch Annual Scholarship;

Millport, Ala. - Aylah O'Neal, IMPACT Scholarship;

Mooreville - Bryson Burleson, D.D. Nicolau for the Ruff Foundation Career Education Endowed Scholarship; Chloe Copeland, STEM Scholarship; Zachary Dunaway, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Jaylynn Green, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Dylan Marshall, Dorothy D. and George H. Ruff Foundation Career Education Endowed Scholarship; Graci Reese, M-OADN Endowed Nursing Scholarship; Adrianna Ruth, IMPACT Scholarship; Kevin Taboada, Christine McCoy Surgical Technology Memorial Annual Scholarship; Brayden White, Pryor-Morrow Endowed Scholarship;

Myrtle - Abbie McQuary, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Nettleton - Virginia Brown, Kayla Murphree Black Endowed Scholarship; Gunnar Dozier, ICC Tuition Toss Annual Scholarship; Latasj Harries, Glyn and Martha Wiygul Endowed Scholarship; Tahj McBride, IMPACT Scholarship; Brandon Mitchell, Dorothy D. and George H. Ruff Foundation Career Education Endowed Scholarship; Sutton Payne, ICC Tuition Toss Annual Scholarship; Jamal Pierce, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

New Albany - Logan Lee Robertson, IMPACT Scholarship, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Okolona - Desmond Brown, Anson Aven Memorial Endowed Scholarship Cameron Giddens, Tim Bowens Endowed Scholarship for Excellence; Asia Powe, Michael D. Bowens Annual Scholarship; Ja'Tasia Ward, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Olive Branch - Cobin Hanna, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Oxford - Balin Bishop, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Madison Brown, IMPACT Scholarship; Nathalie Munoz-Pascacio, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Grace Purdy, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Plantersville - Vanessa Combs, STEM Scholarship; Arin Fowler, North Mississippi Education Consortium; Shawn Hairald, STEM Scholarship; Caroline Riley, Christopher Neil Thomas Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Noah Wood, JT Crabb Memorial Annual Scholarship;

Pontotoc - Alana Corder, IMPACT Scholarship; Caitlyn Ard, W.B. (Bruce) and Peggy Davis Endowed Scholarship; Alyana Ball, STEM Scholarship; Lilyian Bolton, STEM Scholarship; Samira Brewer, Pay It Forward Annual Scholarship; Faith Brown, Sherry Senter Stubblefield and Nancy Senter Presley Endowed Scholarship; Cheridy Brown, Twila Brown Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Christian English, Chris Hayden Memorial Endowed Scholarship, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Kyra Gill, ICC Gala Scholarship; Jaci Hallman, AT&T Endowed Scholarship; Jackson Harmon, Dudley Miller Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Katelin Lackey, IMPACT Scholarship; Jocelyn Martinez, Mama's Got A Brand New Bag Annual Scholarship; Eli Montgomery, ICC Alumni Association Career Education Endowed Scholarship; Makayla Peeples, STEM Scholarship; Elijah Shakle, STEM Scholarship; Khaleb Talliaferro, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Alejandro Tovar, Brasfield and Gorrie Annual Scholarship; Anna Wilkinson, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Ridgeland - Raniya Fisher, Jerry and Stella Allen Education Endowed Scholarship, Mississippi Retired Teachers Association Annual Scholarship;

Ripley - Jordan Blackmon, Walmart Endowed Scholarship; Lauren Hobson, IMPACT Scholarship;

Saltillo - John Langdon, Dan Dixon Memorial Diesel Technology Annual Scholarship; Alice May, IMPACT Scholarship; Carter Seay, ICC Tuition Toss Annual Scholarship; Mackenzie Tackett, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Shannon - Aspen Garmon, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Samira Gates, Land Bank of North Mississippi Annual Scholarship;

Smithville - William Hathcote, Donald A. Baker Endowed Scholarship, Philip A. Sheffield Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Madison Swan, IMPACT Scholarship; Jennifer Thomas, Dixie Medlin Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Starkville - Kaylee Pool, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship;

Tremont - Saige Black, Dorothy Hobson Endowed Scholarship; Kristy Graham, Jim Fagan Endowed Scholarship; Nicholas Hamner, ICC AEOP Annual Scholarship; Taren Howard, Jimmie Uval and Hilda Crane Memorial Endowed Scholarship;

Tupelo - Madeline Blanchard, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship, Stanley D. Moses Endowed Scholarship; Michia Crowley, George W. Owens and Mae H. Owens Endowed Scholarship; Hope Culpepper, Dr. Joseph F. Dzikielewski Memorial Nursing Scholarship; Emily Davidson, John S. Crubaugh Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Christian Fancher, Clellon E. Wheeler and Opal Haynes Wheeler Memorial Scholarship; Paula Garcia, STEM Scholarship; Carson Greenway, Billy Spigner Memorial Annual Scholarship; Parker Harris, Billy Wheeler Memorial Endowed Scholarship, IMPACT Scholarship; Russell Hinds, Stephens Forestry Endowed Scholarship; Hannah Hood, Jennie Witt Mounce Adult Learner Endowed Scholarship; Kaleah Jones, Guyton-Dzikielewski Education Endowed Scholarship; Rachel Lomenick, Joy L. Tomlinson Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Brantley Martin, Bonnie Ruth Gibbs Owings Memorial Endowed Scholarship, Dr. Thomas and Martha Bourland Burch Endowed Scholarship; Danesia McGaughy, Falcon Contracting Annual Scholarship; Rhani McKeown, R.T. (Mickey) West Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Chance McLellan, Mississippi Manufacturers Association Endowed Scholarship; Jennifer Mejia, STEM Scholarship; Makenzie Metcalf, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Brooke Miller, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Reagan Overstreet, Ernest and Jamie Joyner Adult Learner Endowed Scholarship; Lexie Ozbirn, Dr. Joseph F. Dzikielewski Memorial Nursing Scholarship; Autumn Simmons, ICC Tuition Toss Annual Scholarship; Ava Smith, Linda Kay Gilreath Scholarship; Shelby Tigner, IMPACT Scholarship;

Woodland - Karmon Edwards, Chris Ratliff Memorial Endowed Scholarship; Kaylee Miller, Ann Stubblefield Gibbs Endowed Honorary Scholarship; Riale Tucker, The Next Level Endowed Scholarship; and

Yazoo City - Damarion Winston, STEM Scholarship.

Foundation scholarships are provided and funded for ICC students by individuals, businesses, industries or organizations. For more information on scholarship endowment, contact Michael Upton, director of Advancement, (662) 862-8035 or maupton@iccms.edu.

ICC Athletics on the Move

CAMPUS SPORTS

CHIEFTAIN/Page 12.....September 15, 2025



ICC and Hinds in action

ICC falls to Hinds in season opener, 34-7

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College opened its 2025 season Aug. 28 with a 34-7 loss to Hinds Community College.

The Indians struggled to sustain drives, and turnovers in key situations limited scoring opportunities.

Hinds scored on its first play from scrimmage, a 68-yard touchdown pass. The Bulldogs added another first-quarter score on a 15-yard pass, and an 80-yard drive in the second quarter ended with a 24-yard touchdown run, putting Hinds up 21-0 at half-time.

Several Itawamba drives stalled inside the 20-yard line. In the first half, a drive that reached the Hinds' 10 ended with a fumble, stopping a potential scoring opportunity. Later in the third quarter, another drive advanced to the Hinds' 8 before a second fumble ended the series.

The Indians' lone score came in the fourth quarter on a 12-play, 62-yard drive. Mykel Allen ran one yard for the touchdown, and Eli Burciaga converted the extra point. The drive featured several third-down conversions and a 19-yard gain from quarterback Deljay Bailey that kept the se-



ries alive.

Bailey finished 19-of-34 passing for 211 yards. Jaylen Foster led the ground attack with 49 yards on 16 carries. Nate Branch caught five passes for 73 yards, including a 28-yard reception that set up the fourth quarter score.

The defense faced consistent pressure from Hinds' offense. Landon Richardson led the team with six solo tackles, while Nick Sherman added five. Jarquez Perry and Seth Kidd each recorded a sack.

PEARL RIVER 48, ICC 42

The Indians dropped a heartbreaking 48-42 decision on the road against Pearl

River Community College.

Pearl River opened the game with a 90-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, putting ICC in an early hole. The Indians quickly answered with a 38-yard scoring drive capped by a 4-yard touchdown run from Mykel Allen to grab a 7-6 lead midway through the first quarter.

The Wildcats responded with a 10-yard rushing score and a 61-yard strike through the air to take a 20-7 advantage after the opening frame. Eli Burciaga provided a boost at the half, drilling a 41-yard field goal as time expired to cut the deficit to 27-10.

Coming out of the locker room, ICC delivered its best drive of the night. Jaylen Foster capped a 13-play march with a 12-yard touchdown run to pull the Indians within 27-16. Pearl River countered with two touchdowns to build a 41-16 lead early in the fourth quarter.

That's when the Indians came alive.

Marcellus Jackson sparked the rally with a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, the first kickoff return score for ICC since All-American Terry Williams' 69-yard return in a 68-28 win against Northeast in 2017.

Moments later, Amir Scarver recovered a Wildcat fumble. Three plays after the turnover, Allen powered through a tackle at the line and raced 16 yards to the end zone, trimming the margin to 41-30.

Bailey then connected with Nate Branch on a 33-yard touchdown strike to make it 41-36 with 8:08 left. On the next drive, Allen capped the comeback with a 1-yard plunge that gave the Indians a 42-41 lead with just 1:15 remaining.

But Pearl River had one last answer. On its first play from scrimmage, the Wildcats struck for an 88-yard touchdown pass to reclaim the lead, 48-42, with 56 seconds to go. ICC's final chance came on a Bailey heave that was tipped and intercepted in the end zone as time expired.

Bailey finished with 185 yards and a touchdown through the air on 18-of-29 passing. Branch was his top target with 10 receptions for 128 yards and a touchdown. Allen carried the load on the ground with 104 yards and two touchdowns on 26 attempts.

#RollTribe

From the Sideline

Billy Millender
Chieftain Staff
Football

How important is it?

At Itawamba Community College, athletics play a significant part in its culture, student life and even identity. Sports are more than just extracurricular activities for many schools; they are also substantial sources of funding, community involvement and school spirit.

However, football is the sport that attracts the most excellent attention among all those offered at the collegiate level. The gridiron frequently eclipses other athletic programs, whether at a large university like Mississippi State or the University of Mississippi, or at a smaller school like Itawamba Community College. This raises a crucial question: Does football, at any level of collegiate athletics, receive all the attention it deserves?

To start, it is indisputable that football is a popular sport in American culture. American sports culture revolves around football, from Friday evenings in high school to Saturdays in college and Sundays in the NFL.

College football has garnered national media attention, millions of viewers and lucrative television contracts, solidifying its status as a cultural phenomenon. Even at the community college level, where stadiums are smaller and the broadcast team is more limited, football frequently draws the largest audiences. For instance, football Saturdays at ICC are nonexistent because they play on Thursday nights. This fosters a sense of community among students, alumni and Fulton residents that other sports often struggle to achieve, almost bringing back the spirit of Friday night lights.

However, other athletic programs may suffer as a result of the focus on football. There may be significantly less coverage, funding and attendance for sports like baseball, volleyball and soccer. Although these programs still demand commitment from coaches and participants, their work is frequently overshadowed by football's popularity. For example, although ICC has produced competitive teams in various sports, football is the most discussed topic in student publications, campus announcements and local media. This tendency is similar to what occurs at larger campuses, where even championship-caliber softball or tennis programs frequently struggle in comparison to the weekly football games.

Football, is therefore, often given priority in athletic departments when it comes to financing, facilities and promotion. Although this pragmatic focus makes sense from an institutional standpoint, it also marginalizes other worthy programs and strengthens football's hold on college culture. It is essential to recognize, however, that football's popularity is not entirely detrimental. Football can be a recruiting tool for institutions such as ICC, attracting individuals who might not otherwise consider attending a community college. It can establish customs that unite former students and present ones, enhancing fidelity to the school. Those who play football can also continue their studies and athletic careers by transferring to four-year universities. Football's exposure benefits both the participating athletes and the school as a whole.

Football's indisputable appeal must be balanced with the requirement to acknowledge and encourage other sports programs. Although football may be the main event, colleges must ensure that different sports have significant opportunities to shine. This balance can be attained by encouraging student participation in nonfootball events and publicly showcasing players from all programs. At ICC, where sports play a significant role in student life, these actions are necessary to ensure that every student-athlete feels valued.

To sum up, football receives the most attention in collegiate athletics, regardless of whether the setting is a community college or major university. Its cultural significance, financial impact and role in college identity make this dominance almost inevitable. However, recognizing this reality should not prevent institutions from elevating other sports and celebrating the diverse talents of their student-athletes. At ICC and beyond, the goal should not be to diminish football's place, but rather to broaden the spotlight so that the entire athletic community benefits. ROLL TRIBE!

ICC's Juma picks up MACCCC, NJCAA honors

Staff Reports

Villads Juma has been named National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Men's Soccer Player of the Week, according to an announcement.

The freshman from Helsinger, Denmark delivered a standout performance, recording five goals and three assists to help the Indians secure a 2.0 week.

Juma opened the stretch with



Villads Juma

two goals and an assist in ICC's 6-2 victory over Southern Union. He followed with a dominant showing against Emory Oxford, netting a hat trick and adding two assists in an 8-1 win.

For his performance, he was also named Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference Men's Soccer Offensive Player of the Week.

Harper, Maddox named tp '25 JCGridiron Preseason All-American Teams

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College offensive linemn Amar Harper and Barrett Maddox have been named to the 2025 JC Gridiron Preseason All-American Teams.

Harper earned Second Team honors, and Maddox was selected to the Fourth Team.

JCGridironn is one of the top national authorities on junior college football, and it's All-American teams spotlight the players who are ready to move on to four-year programs. Being named is a major achievement because it shows a player has talent, experience and

the ability to compete at the next level.

Harper, who is a 6-foot-6, 315 pound tackle from Magee, started all nine games for ICC in 2024. He helped the Indians improve from a 3-6 record in 2023 to 6-3 last season. Harper is a strong, consistent player who dominates at the line of scrimmage. He has drawn offers from multiple FBS programs and committed to Troy University for 2025.

Maddox also stands 6-foot-6 and weighs 320 pounds. He was a three-star recruit out of Clinton High School in Tennessee and

played at Vanderbilt before transferring to ICC. He has SEC-level talent and is ready to make an immediate impact. Being named a preseason All American before playing a snap for ICC shows the national respect he commands.

"Amar and Barrett are two of the most talented linemen I've ever coached," ICC head coach Travis Macon said. "Their work ethic and leadership set the tone for our entire team. Having them anchor our offensive line gives us a real chance to compete at the highest level this season."



Ice-cold Lemonade

ICC Head Baseball Coach Slater Lott, his wife, Melissa and their children, Reese and Cameron, serve lemonade on a hot summer day. - Photo furnished

Itawamba Community College Sports...

ON THE SCHEDULE

MEN'S SOCCER

9.15	@Holmes	4 p.m.
9.19	Jones	4 p.m.
9.23	@Northwest	7 p.m.
9.26	Co-Lin	4 p.m.
10.3	@East Mississippi	7 p.m.
10.7	Hinds	3 p.m.
10.10	Southwest	3 p.m.
10.14	@Meridian	7 p.m.
10.21	Pearl River	3 p.m.
10.24	@East Central	7 p.m.
10.28	@Miss. Gulf Coast	6 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

9.16	@Holmes	1 p.m.
9.19	Jones	2 p.m.
9.23	@Northwest	5 p.m.
9.26	Co-Lin	2 p.m.
10.3	@East Mississippi	5 p.m.
10.7	Hinds	1 p.m.
10.10	Southwest	1 p.m.
10.14	@Meridian	5 p.m.
10.17	Calhoun	3 p.m.
10.21	Pearl River	1 p.m.
10.24	@East Central	5 p.m.
10.28	@Miss. Gulf Coast	4 p.m.

FOOTBALL

9.18	East MS	7 p.m.
9.25	@Miss. Delta	7 p.m.
10.9	Coahoma (HC)	7 p.m.
10.16	@Holmes	6:30 p.m.
10.23	Northeast	7 p.m.
10.30	@Northeast	7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

9.15	@Jones	5 p.m.
9.17	Pearl River	5 p.m.
9.19	Walters State	noon
	@Wallace-Hanceville	
9.19	Bevill State	4 p.m.
	Cullman, Ala.	
9.20	Vincennes	9 a.m.
	@Wallace-Hanceville	
9.20	Wallace-Hanceville	11 a.m.
9.22	@Northeast	6 p.m.
9.24	East Central	6 p.m.
9.29	@East Central	6:30 p.m.
10.1	Northeast	6 p.m.
10.3	U.S. Sports Univ.	11 a.m.

Follow ICC athletics...LetsGoICC.com
or on Twitter...@LetsGoICC



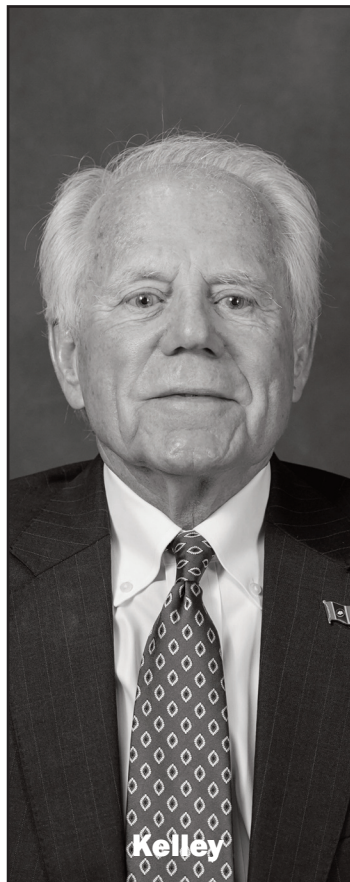
Waycaster



Sullivan



Hoskins



Kelley



Faulkner

ICC to honor five during Homecoming 2025

Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College will honor its 2025 Alumnus of the Year, Athletic Hall of Fame inductees, Distinguished Service and Young Alumnus of the Year award recipients during Homecoming activities, Oct. 9, at the Fulton Campus.

They include Mitch Waycaster of Tupelo, Alumnus of the Year; Mike Sullivan of Spanish Fort, Ala. and Jameika Hoskins of Chula Vista, Calif., Athletic Hall of Fame; Randy Kelley of Tupelo, Distinguished Service; and Phillip Faulkner of Amory, Young Alumnus of the Year.

MITCH WAYCASTER

Waycaster, who is executive vice president of both Renasant Corporation and Renasant Bank, attended Itawamba Junior College in Fulton from fall 1976 to May 1978, where he commuted daily while working after graduating from Shannon High School. He attended Mississippi State University and earned the bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Mississippi. He is a graduate of the University of Delaware Stonier Graduate School of Baking and the National Compliance School at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Colorado as well as the Mid-South School of Banking at the University of Memphis and the Tennessee Commercial Lending School at Vanderbilt University. Waycaster currently serves as a member of multiple boards, including North Mississippi Health Services, Natchez Trace Boy Scouts of America, University of Mississippi Banking and Finance Advisory, Japan-American Society of Mississippi, Mississippi Economic Council and the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Among his honors are Julius G. Berry Award from the United Way of Northeast Mississippi, Distinguished Finance Executive Award from the Ole Miss Business School and Honorary Consul of Japan in Tupelo. In addition, Waycaster serves on the board and is retiring past chairman of the Mississippi Bankers Association. He and his wife, Christy, have raised three children and have three grandchil-

dren. They are active members of First Baptist Church.

MIKE SULLIVAN

Sullivan, the head coach of the ICC men's soccer team for 20 seasons and the program's all-time winningest coach, retired in 2022. He completed his career at ICC with a record of 215-208-32. He also served as women's head coach for eight seasons (2007-14). Sullivan led the men's soccer program to five North Division titles (2022, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2021) and made 10 playoff appearances. He helped guide the Lady Indians to their only North Division championship (2007) while qualifying for the playoffs five times. He coached the MACJC All-Star game in 2015. During Sullivan's time at ICC, 200 of his players earned conference and national academic honors, more than 50 named All-State and 20 All-Region, three NJCAA Region 23 Players of the Year and one NCAA All-American. His 2013 and 2014 squads earned NJCAA Men's Soccer Academic Team of the Year honors. Additional highlights of his career include the first person to play and coach in the Mississippi High School Athletic Association Soccer All-Star game and was a player for the Mississippi State club soccer team. He earned the bachelor's degree in teaching and coaching/education and master's degree in sports administration, both from MSU. He and his wife, Tammy, have four children, Shannon Gillentine and Brittany Sullivan and Hayden and Ty Wilkerson.

JAMEIKA HOSKINS

During her sophomore season at ICC where she attended from 2010-12, Hoskins, a native of Aberdeen, led the Lady Indians to a 26-3 record and runner-up in the NJCAA Region 23 tournament. Ranked 21st in the nation in rebounding, she signed with Southeastern Louisiana University and later went on to earn her bachelor's degree. Highlights of her career include NJCAA All-American; led ICC to North Division and MACJC State championships; averaged 14.9 points

and 10.3 rebounds; ranked first in single-season rebounds, eighth in single-season points and sixth in single-season blocks; first team-All-State and All-Region and played in the MACJC All-Star game. Hoskins' ICC jersey was hung in the NJCAA Ring of Honor in the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn. during 2012-13. Currently stationed in the U.S. Navy in San Diego, Calif., she is a member of the All-Navy basketball team. Her additional honors include All-Navy Basketball Team silver medalist (2016), Team USA, Armed Forces, silver medalist; 2017 All-Navy gold medalist; 2019 All-Navy silver medalist; 2022/2023 All-Navy bronze; and 2023 all-tournament team and Team USA Armed Forces selection. She and her spouse, Tara Ingram, have two children, Rameek and T'ari Ingram.

RANDY KELLEY

Kelley became the director of Three Rivers Planning & Development District in 1976, which operates 10 corporations serving its eight-county base as well as multiple other companies including the PUL Alliance and 27-county Workforce Mississippi Partnership. He relocated from Haiti, Mo. to attend Ole Miss, where he earned the bachelor's degree in banking and finance and the master's degree in urban and regional planning. He began his career as the regional planner for the Tennessee Valley Regional Housing Authority and for the Northeast Planning and Development District. Among his leadership roles include president of the Mississippi Planning and Development Association for multiple terms, the National Association of Development Organization and the Development District Association of Appalachia. His honors are the National J. Roy Fogle Award for Outstanding Executive Director,

ARC Federal Co-Chairman award, U.S. Small Business Administration Advocate of the Year award, National Association of Development Organizations, President's award (2008), selected as one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers by Consultant Connect (2015), the first recipient of the Regional Rehabilitation Center's Red Raspberry Humanitarian award (2015), Small Business Administration Lifetime Achievement award (2017), inducted into the University of Mississippi Alumni Hall of Fame (2018) and the Mississippi Development Authority Marsha N. Hamilton Spirit award (2020). He and his wife, Bonnie, have two daughters, Treny Emison and Tish Kelley.

PHILLIP FAULKNER

Faulkner earned the Associate of Arts degree in 2011 from ICC, where he participated in intramural basketball. After graduation, he began his professional career in the marine industry, serving as vice president of NauticStar boats for six years. In 2019, he established Avid Boats, where he continues to serve as owner and CEO. In six years, Avid Boats has grown into one of the top 10 aluminum fishing boat manufacturers in the nation. Outside of work, Faulkner spends time hunting and fishing, supporting Mississippi State athletics and being with his family. He and his wife, the former Carly Ramsey, who also attended ICC, are the parents of a son, Major (5), and daughter, Storie (1). They are members of the Christian Chapel Church of Christ.

The award recipients will be honored at a special ceremony at 4 p.m. at the Davis Event Center and presented during the ICC/Coahoma pregame activities, which begin at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, email maup-ton@iccms.edu.

getinvolved@iccms.edu